

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN JOAN ANDERSEN**, on January 10, 2003 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 137 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Joan Andersen, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Larry Lehman, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Norman Ballantyne (D)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)  
Rep. Gary Branae (D)  
Rep. Carol Gibson (D)  
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)  
Rep. Bob Lake (R)  
Rep. Joe McKenney (R)  
Rep. Clarice Schrumpf (R)  
Rep. Pat Wagman (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Kathleen Galvin-Halcro, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Bob Lawson (R)  
Rep. Nancy Fritz (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Eddy McClure, Legislative Branch  
Mari Prewett, Committee Secretary

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:** Presentations by Madalyn Quinlan of OPI and Jim Standaert, Legislative Services

**{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0}**

**CHAIRMAN JOAN ANDERSEN** brought up the issue of proxy votes since proxy votes had not been brought up in the Organizational Meeting. **CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** stated that in the past in the

Education Committee, it had been allowed that a blank proxy could be given either to the Committee Vice Chair or given to another member of the committee to be used when a committee member is absent from committee. In the past it has also been allowed that the designated person could vote on Amendments. **CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** asked if anyone had a problem with the method or suggestions for other ways in which to handle proxies.

**REP. JACKSON** stated that he would like to have a proxy at the committee's disposal in an instance such as someone getting sick and having no notice that they were going to miss a committee hearing. **REP. JACKSON** felt that each member should have a supply of proxy forms but that a couple of signed blank proxy forms should be available for use.

**REP. MCKENNEY** stated that in other committees the Vice Chairs have the signed blank proxies so that if the need arises votes can be taken. He further stated that no one had ever asked to see the signed proxies that the Vice Chairs had simply voted the proxy, but the written proxies should be available just in case the issue would ever arise.

**CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** took a voice vote to continue the practice of using proxies, with each designated Vice Chair having proxies for the members of their party or if the committee member wishes to give their proxy to another sitting member of the committee that will be present for Executive Action and Amendments. The committee unanimously agreed to this practice.

**CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** introduced Eddy McClure, of Legislative Services to discuss the procedure for drafting amendments to bills.

**Eddy McClure** stated that any amendments for any bills must go through a Legislator. The reason is that if amendments can be prepared in advance they will be technically correct and can be moved on. A major amendment should be received a day or two ahead of time so that she will have time to prepare the amendment. **Ms. McClure** reiterated that amendments must come through a Legislator.

**CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** announced that Executive Action would be taken on some of the bills which had been heard on Wednesday, January 15, 2003.

**CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** stated that she is aware that there are possibly some amendments wanted for HB 107 and suggested that those amendments be drafted and as a courtesy to Representative

Olson. **CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** said that he should be allowed to know what is being suggested and that his bill is going to be amended since he will be the person who will handle the bill on the floor of the House should it pass the committee.

**CHAIRMAN ANDERSEN** announced that Madalyn Quinlan from the Office of Public Instruction and Jim Standeart from Legislative Services were present to educate the Committee and Guests on school funding in Montana.

**MADAYLN QUINLAN, Office of Public Instruction,** presented her program. See attached.

**EXHIBIT (edh05a01)**

**EXHIBIT (edh05a02)**

**JIM STANDEART, Legislative Services,** presented his program. See attached.

**EXHIBIT (edh05a03)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:50 P.M.

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REP. JOAN ANDERSEN, Chairman

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MARI PREWETT, Secretary

JA/MP

**EXHIBIT** (edh05aad)